

**St Joseph's School
618 Third Avenue, Berlin, NH**



DES Site Number: 200801035

ONESTOP Master Id.: 62842

Date of update: March 15, 2010

Description: This site is occupied by a former Catholic school building built between 1916 and 1932. The school has been vacant since approximately 1983. The building appears to be structurally sound and to have received basic maintenance while vacant. The property is currently owned by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester.

Potential Environmental Concerns: Potential concerns associated with this property include potential releases of petroleum products from storage tanks and the likely presence of hazardous building materials (namely asbestos and lead paint) that must be considered as part of renovation plans for the building.

Previous Work: A Brownfields Phase I Environmental Site Assessment was completed on behalf of the Roman Catholic Bishop by North Country Council Inc. (NCC) in August 2009. This work was funded with an EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant awarded to NCC.

Current Work: DES approved a work scope for GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc. (GZA) to complete a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment and a Hazardous Building Materials (HBM) Survey of the site. DES also contracted with GZA to conduct an historical resource evaluation of the site in compliance with Section 106 of the Historical Preservation Act. The Phase II Environmental Site Assessment is expected to involve the collection and analysis of soil samples to assess surface and subsurface environmental conditions at the site. An HBM survey is completed in support of potential renovation or demolition to assess the presence and distribution of hazardous building materials such as PCBs (in floor tiles, mastics, light ballasts, transformers, etc.), asbestos (in pipe coverings, linoleum, tiles, wall board, plaster, old tennis court surfaces, etc.), and mercury (heating system components, etc.). HBM surveys involve limited destructive sampling and analysis of suspect building materials.

Fieldwork is scheduled to begin during the week of March 29, 2010 and should be complete by April 30, 2010. A report should be available for public review in June/July 2010.

Copies of all available Brownfields reports for this site can be accessed from the DES ONESTOP database at [ONESTOP Master Id.: 62842](#).

Scheduled Public Events: There are no public meetings currently scheduled for this site.

Cleanup Planning: Cleanup planning documents have not yet been prepared for this site. Cleanup planning documents will be prepared and released for public comment once the Phase II Environmental Assessment work and any necessary supplemental assessment work has been completed.

Section 106 of Historic Preservation Act: A Project Review Request was submitted to the New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources – Division of Historical Resources (DHR) on behalf of DES. DHR issued a determination of “No Potential to Cause Effects” on March 10, 2010 and requested further consultation if additional work is needed.